

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Sort operations of an input signal are performed by providing a first sort part 6 comprising one shift circuit 8 and (1-1) sort circuits 9a to 9c, and a second sort part 7  
5 comprising one delay circuit 10, (m-1) sort circuits 11a to 11c and m shift circuits 12a to 12d in a pattern synchronous circuit 100.